Import of Scientific Instruments

1052. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of certain types of scientific instruments which are not manufactured in India is allowed to Government research and educational institutions without payment of customs duty; if so, what are the incentives given for developing the same indigenously;

(b) whether 'customs duty free' import of components is allowed to the indigenous manufactures; if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the rate of customs duty is higher on imported raw materials and components than the duty leviable on finished products, i.e. scientific instruments; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir. Only Government research and educational institutions are permitted to import instruments without payment of duty. The policy for the import of instruments by others is highly restrictive and as such the indigenous industry is adequately protected.

(b) Import of capital goods, connected raw materials and components are eligible for concessional assessment of duty under 'Project Imports'.

(c) and (d) All raw materials and components do not carry a higher rate than finished scientific instruments. Parts of some scientific instruments are charged at same rate of duty applicable to the main instruments. Tariff is fixed taking into account the interest of indigenous industry apart from other releated factors.

[1053 *(Withdrawn)*

Substitution of Mullberry silk yarn for imported raw silk

1054. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether for the purposes of Advance Licences under Appendix 19 and of the Import and Export Pass Book under Appendix 25 covering duty free imports of raw silk, domestically produced mulberry silk yarns is allowed to be substituted for the imported raw silk;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) the manner in which surplus import duty exempted raw silk is used or roldout-side the books of accounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Under the Duty Exemption Scheme as contained in Appendix 19 exports|supplies made from the date of receipt of application is accepted towards discharge of export obligation. If such exports are accepted, the Advance Licence Holder who has used the indigenously availbale raw-materials is allowed replenishment of the materials used for the production of the export product already exported, before the issue of the Advance Licence.

However, such facilities have not so far been provided under the Import-Export Pass-Book Scheme under Appendix—25.

(b) Since indigenously available raw-materials have been utilised in the manufacture of exports products before the issue of Advance Licence, the extent of raw-material used in the Export Product has to be replenished.

(c) In cases where the export obligation has been partially or fully met before the receipt of the Advance Licence. the Advance Licencing Committee may consider transfer, at landed cost of the exempt materials imported subsequently on this licence as replenishment to the supporting manufacturer whose name appears in the DEEC for further production subject to Actual User Condition. The raw-material is not allowed to be